

CLAIMS

1. A sliding device for supporting a rider when sliding on a surface, comprising:  
a runner having first and second upturned ends and a middle portion between the upturned ends;  
a deck elevated from the runner, the deck having an upper surface that supports a rider and a longitudinal axis; and  
a spacer secured to the runner at a runner attachment position and secured to the deck at a deck attachment position so that forces applied by a rider on the deck are transmitted to the runner, and so that a portion of the deck near the deck attachment position is not free to pivot about the longitudinal axis relative to a portion of the runner at the runner attachment position;  
wherein the runner and the deck are constructed and arranged to allow riding with both the first upturned end of the runner forward and the second upturned end of the runner forward.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein the runner and deck are constructed and arranged to provide equivalent riding performance with the first runner end forward and the second runner end forward.
3. The device of claim 1, wherein the upper surface of the deck includes a portion that is concave in an edge-to-edge direction.
4. The device of claim 1, wherein the deck includes upturned longitudinal ends.
5. The device of claim 1, wherein the deck includes uplifted lateral edges that are positioned vertically farther away from the runner than a central portion of the deck.
6. The device of claim 1, wherein an angle formed between a plane of a bottom surface of the runner and a line extending between a lower edge of the runner and a lateral edge of the deck is between 30 and 70 degrees.

7. The device of claim 1, wherein the upper surface of the deck is arranged for a gripping surface.

8. The device of claim 1, further comprising a foam material secured to at least one portion of the upper surface of the deck.

9. The device of claim 1, comprising first and second spacers, wherein the runner has an overall length and the first spacer is positioned longitudinally inward from the first upturned end of the runner at a distance equal to approximately one-fifth to one-half of the overall length, and the second spacer is positioned longitudinally inward from the second upturned end of the runner at a distance equal to approximately one-fifth to one-half of the overall length.

10. The device of claim 1, comprising first and second spacers, wherein the first spacer is positioned nearer the first upturned end of the runner and a second spacer is positioned nearer a second upturned end of the runner, wherein the runner has an overall length and the first and second spacers are separated longitudinally by a distance equal to approximately zero to three-fifths the overall length of the runner.


11. The device of claim 1, comprising two spacers, wherein the two spacers are longitudinally separated from each other and attach the runner and the deck together, and a portion of the runner between the spacers is free to flex relative to the deck.

12. The device of claim 1, wherein the first and second upturned ends of the runner are free to move relative to the deck.

13. The device of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second upturned ends of the runner extends beyond a corresponding end of the deck.

14. The device of claim 1, wherein the runner is longer than the deck and the first and second upturned ends of the runner extend beyond corresponding ends of the deck.

15. The device of claim 14, wherein the first and second upturned ends are free to move  
5 relative to the deck.

 16. The device of claim 1, wherein the runner has a width that is approximately 0.4 to 0.8 times a width of the deck, and the deck has a width between 7 and 15 inches.

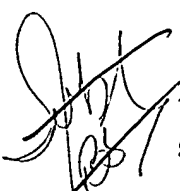
10 17. The device of claim 1, wherein a minimum spacing between the upper surface of the deck and a lower surface of the runner is approximately 1 to 8.375 inches.

18. The device of claim 1, wherein the runner has a sidecut.

15 19. The device of claim 1, comprising two spacers that are longitudinally displaced and have a same height, wherein the runner and the deck are secured together by the two longitudinally displaced spacers.

20 20. The device of claim 1, wherein the runner is equally spaced vertically from the deck along the middle portion of the runner.

21. The device of claim 1, wherein the spacer is constructed and arranged to allow one of movement of the deck and runner to decrease in a distance between a lower surface of the runner near the runner attachment position and the upper surface of the deck near the deck  
25 attachment position, relative rotation of the deck and runner about an axis perpendicular to a longitudinal axis, and relative longitudinal movement of the deck and runner.

 22. The device of claim 1, wherein at least one of the deck and the runner are directly secured to the spacer.

23. A sliding device for supporting a rider when sliding on a surface, comprising:  
a runner having first and second upturned ends and a middle portion between the upturned ends;

a deck elevated from the runner, the deck having an upper surface that supports a rider; and

two spacers secured to the runner at longitudinally displaced runner attachment positions and secured to the deck at longitudinally displaced deck attachment positions so that forces applied by a rider on the deck are transmitted to the runner, and so that a portion of the deck near a deck attachment position corresponding to a first spacer is not free to pivot about a longitudinal axis relative to a portion of the runner at a runner attachment position corresponding to the first spacer;

wherein the first and second upturned ends of the runner are free to move relative to the deck.

24. The device of claim 23, wherein the runner and deck are constructed and arranged to provide equivalent riding performance with the first runner end forward and the second runner end forward.

25. The device of claim 23, wherein the upper surface of the deck includes a portion that is concave in an edge-to-edge direction.

26. The device of claim 23, wherein the deck includes upturned longitudinal ends.

27. The device of claim 23, wherein the deck includes uplifted lateral edges that are positioned vertically farther away from the runner than a central portion of the deck.

28. The device of claim 23, wherein an angle formed between a plane of a bottom surface of the runner and a line extending between a lower edge of the runner and a lateral edge of the deck is between 30 and 70 degrees.

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29. The device of claim 23, wherein the upper surface of the deck is arranged for a gripping surface.

30. The device of claim 23, further comprising a foam material secured to at least one portion of the upper surface of the deck.

31. The device of claim 23, comprising first and second spacers, wherein the runner has an overall length and the first spacer is positioned longitudinally inward from the first upturned end of the runner at a distance equal to approximately one-fifth to one-half of the overall length, and the second spacer is positioned longitudinally inward from the second upturned end of the runner at a distance equal to approximately one-fifth to one-half of the overall length.

32. The device of claim 23, comprising first and second spacers, wherein the first spacer is positioned nearer the first upturned end of the runner and a second spacer is positioned nearer a second upturned end of the runner, wherein the runner has an overall length and the first and second spacers are separated longitudinally by a distance equal to approximately zero to three-fifths the overall length of the runner.

33. The device of claim 23, wherein a portion of the runner between the spacers is free to flex relative to the deck.

34. The device of claim 23, wherein the first and second upturned ends of the runner are free to move relative to the deck.

35. The device of claim 23, wherein at least one of the first and second upturned ends of the runner extends beyond a corresponding end of the deck.

36. The device of claim 23, wherein the runner is longer than the deck and the first and second upturned ends of the runner extend beyond corresponding ends of the deck.

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38. The device of claim 23, wherein the runner has a width that is approximately 0.4 to 0.8 times a width of the deck, and the deck has a width of approximately 7 and 15 inches.

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41. The device of claim 23, wherein the two spacers have a same height.

43. The device of claim 23, wherein one of the runner and the deck has a length of approximately 25 and 72 inches.

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5 a spacer secured to the runner at a runner attachment position and secured to the deck  
at a deck attachment position so that forces applied by a rider on the deck are transmitted to  
the runner;

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48. A sliding device for supporting a rider when sliding on a surface, comprising:  
a runner having at least one upturned end, a middle portion and a lower surface;  
a deck elevated from the runner, the deck having an upper surface that supports a  
rider; and

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49. A sliding device for supporting a rider when sliding on a surface, comprising:  
a runner having at least one upturned end, a middle portion and a width;  
a deck elevated from the runner, the deck having a width and an upper surface that supports a rider; and

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wherein a ratio of the width of the runner to the width of the deck is approximately 0.45 to 0.6.

50. A sliding device for supporting a rider when sliding on a surface, comprising:

5 a runner having at least one upturned end, a middle portion and a lower surface between two lower edges;

a deck elevated from the runner, the deck having opposite lateral edges and an upper surface that supports a rider; and

10 a spacer secured to the runner at a runner attachment position and secured to the deck at a deck attachment position so that forces applied by a rider on the deck are transmitted to the runner;

wherein an angle between a plane parallel to the lower surface of the runner and a line extending between a lower edge of the runner and a lateral edge of the deck is approximately 30 and 70 degrees.

15 51. A sliding device for supporting a rider when sliding on a surface, comprising:

a runner having first and second ends, a middle portion between the first and second ends and a length;

20 a deck elevated from the runner, the deck having an upper surface that supports a rider; and

first and second spacers secured to the runner at respective runner attachment positions and secured to the deck at respective deck attachment positions so that forces applied by a rider on the deck are transmitted to the runner;

25 wherein the first spacer is positioned at approximately one-fifth to one-half the length of the runner from the first end and the second spacer is positioned at approximately one-fifth to one-half the length of the runner from the second end.

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